

URBAN DISTRICT OF NEWPORT PAGNELL
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1960

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL
N.E. HOLLIS, ESQ., J.P.
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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W.S. HAWKINS, ESQ.
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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
D.H. Waldron, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.,
D.T.M. & H., Col. I.A.M.C. (Retd),

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for the Borough of Buckingham, the Urban Districts of Bletchley, Linslade and Wolverton, the Rural Districts of Buckingham, Newport Pagnell and Wing, Area Medical Officer for North Bucks. and Divisional School Medical Officer for the North Bucks. Division and Buckingham and Winslow Districts).

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:
Dr. F.L. O'Rourke, M.B., C.H.B., D.P.H., D.I.H.

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:
J.F. Hopkin, A.M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Council Offices,
60, High Street,
NEWPORT PAGNELL.
13th. June, 1961.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Council.

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1960.

The Birth Rate remains at the same level and is still
lower than that for the rest of the country.

The Death Rate shows a satisfactory drop of 2 points
from last year, Heart Diseases, Pneumonia and Cancer were
the principal causes of death.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for the third year in
succession shows a satisfactory Nil return.

I should like to record again another year of helpful
co-operation with your Clerk, Mr. Hall, your Surveyor and
Health Inspector, Mr. Hopkin and their staffs.

I am,
Your Obedient Servant,

DANIEL H. WALDRON.

Medical Officer of Health.

NEWPORT PAGNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1960

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS

	1959	1960
Area (In Acres)	3,432	3,432
Population	4,500	est. 4,620 est.
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,746	1,816
Rateable Value	55,742	61,055
Rate Per Pound	22/6	22/-
Product of a 1d rate	£222	£250

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Legitimate (Males)	35	37
" (Females)	32	28
Illegitimate (Males)	NIL	1
" (Females)	NIL	NIL
Stillbirths	1	NIL
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.4	15.0
" " " " " (Bucks)	17.6	18.6
" " " (England and Wales)	16.5	17.1

DEATHS

Males	43	40
Females	54	32
Death rate per 1,000 population	11.2	9.2
" " " " " (Bucks)	9.7	9.7
Maternal Mortality	NIL	NIL

<u>DEATHS</u> (Cont'd)	1959	1960
Maternal Mortality (England & Wales)	0.38	0.39
Infantile Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 births)	NIL	NIL
Infantile Mortality (Bucks.)	18.4	19.8
Infantile Mortality (England & Wales)	22.0	21.7

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

	1959			1960		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	0.	1.	1.	0.	0.	0.
Tuberculosis, other	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
Meningococcal Infections	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
Cancer	4.	6.	10.	6.	2.	8.
Diabetes	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
Cerebral Haemorrhage	7.	10.	17.	5.	9.	14.
Heart Diseases	14.	19.	33.	19.	11.	30.
Other Circulatory Diseases	1.	0.	1.	0.	0.	0.
Influenza	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
Pneumonia	2.	10.	12.	4.	5.	9.
Bronchitis	7.	2.	9.	2.	2.	4.
Digestive Diseases	1.	1.	2.	0.	0.	0.
Nephritis	1.	0.	1.	1.	0.	1.
Hyperplasia of the Prostate	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
Pregnancy, Childbirth & Abortion	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
Congenital Diseases	0.	0.	0.	0.	1.	1.
Accidents	2.	1.	3.	2.	1.	3.
Suicide	1.	0.	1.	0.	0.	0.
All other causes	3.	4.	7.	1.	1.	2.
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SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

1. LABORATORY SERVICES

The bacteriological work of the District has been carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton. Samples of water and sewage for chemical analysis were sent, and in the case of sewage to the Analyst, Great Ouse River Board.

2. AMBULANCE SERVICES.

These services are administered by the County Council and are controlled in the North Bucks. Area from a station at Bletchley. In Newport Pagnell two ambulances and one sitting case car are maintained, supplemented if necessary by ambulances from other Districts.

3. NURSING FACILITIES

As in previous years the District Nurses carried on their very excellent and noble work.

4. CLINICS

Maternity and Child Welfare: This Clinic which is held at the Congregational School on the 1st. and 3rd. Wednesdays of each month, is attended by a Medical Officer, Health Visitor, District Nurse and of course members of the Voluntary Committee. I should like to pay tribute to these ladies of the Voluntary Committee who give up their spare time to this work. During the year 764 children attended this Clinic.

5. HOME HELP

This service, administered by the County Council, has done very good work since its inception. During the year 30 cases were assisted.

6. ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

Organised by the Regional Hospital Board. This Clinic meets fortnightly on a Friday.

7. HOSPITALS

The following hospitals have served this area:-

Northampton General Hospital.

Bedford County Hospital.

Royal Bucks. Hospital, Aylesbury.

Tindal Hospital, Aylesbury.

Harborough Road Isolation Hospital.

Renny Lodge Hospital.

Westbury Maternity Home.

Creton Sanatorium.

SECTION C.
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

The Council were responsible for the supply and distribution of water until 31st. March, 1960, following which date the undertaking was taken over by the Bucks. Water Board in accordance with the terms of the Bucks. Water Act 1959. The Board have maintained the supply of water from the Ash Hill source and also from the source at Foxcote but the Caldecote water works previously maintained by the Council for the production and treatment of water remained in the Council's ownership and has been used for the treatment of water used in connection with the Council's Swimming Pool.

Numerous complaints as to the unpleasant earthy taste of the water were received during the early months following the Board taking over the responsibility for public water supply, but all examinations of the water proved it to be very satisfactory and suitable for the purpose of public supply. Eight samples were submitted for examination by the Council during the year. No complaints were received during the later months of the year following the introduction of additional treatment plant by the Board at its Foxcote pumping station. No shortage of water was experienced in the area during the year.

During the year an extension to the Wolverton Road water main was carried out which made the public main supply available to a further five dwellings, and I am pleased to report that the whole of the occupied dwellings in your area have now a main water supply available for the use of the occupants.

2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The sewerage of the Western section of the town continues to be an item of major concern to the Council and incidents of flooding occurred during 1st./3rd. November and 3rd./6th. December and again during 19th./23rd. December.

The invasion of flood water into two properties occurred and this only to a minor degree but several gardens, highways and areas of land in the Little Linford Lane, Wolverton Road, Lakes Lane and Caldecote Street were under water for short periods.

The construction of an 18" and 21" relief surface water sewer in Broad Street was undertaken during the year and improvements to the surface water culverts passing below the Shipley Railway Wharf were carried out.

At the present time discussions are taking place with the Officers of the Great Ouse River Board, the Council's Consulting Engineers and the Council's Officers with a view to the adoption of further proposals for the reduction of flooding in the district.

During the year the Wolverton Road foul sewerage system has been extended as far as the Urban District Boundary and a small sewerage and sewage disposal system constructed to effectively drain the dwelling houses Nos. 3, to 17, London Road.

Residential development has continued during the year on sites at Foxgate and Linford Avenue and further extensions to the Motorway M.1. Service Area Establishments are proposed for construction in the near future. In addition approval is being sought for the development of further areas of land for residential use at the Western extremity of the town. During several periods of heavy rainfall the Wolverton Road sewer has surcharged, and with the additional use being imposed upon it increased nuisance and inconvenience may be expected. The majority

of the dwelling houses and other properties constructed prior to 1939 have combined foul and surface water drainage systems and the storm water discharged from these properties together with infiltration of ground water charges the sewers beyond their capacity. The Council's Consulting Engineers have been instructed to investigate and to report on this subject.

In an endeavour to prevent surcharging of the sewers it has been found necessary to carry out heavy and prolonged pumping from the Silver Street Pumping Station which has resulted (during periods of heavy rainfall) with some flooding at the Sewage Works particularly at times when, during periods of flooding in the River Lovat, the effluent drain fails to carry the discharge load required of it. With the development which has taken place in the town and that proposed in the near future, the Council will be required to consider the provision of additional settlement tanks and filter area provided for in the original construction of the Sewage Works, alternatively the exclusion of surface water from the foul sewers may be considered.

Several samples of effluent have been taken by the Officers of the Great Ouse River Board for examination and in every instant these had proved the effluent to be satisfactory.

3. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The collection of house and trade refuse has been maintained on a weekly service to all properties excepting certain business premises from which two collections were made each week and the Motorway Catering Establishments from which collections were made daily excepting Sundays.

The Council have discussed the question of amending the system to a 'kerb side collection', but it has been decided to maintain the 'back door collection' which has operated in the town for many years.

Man power difficulties in this service were overcome by the introduction of an incentive bonus scheme of payment to the operators and by this method it has been found possible to reduce by 50% the number of collectors employed.

The subject of refuse tipping area has become a problem during the year particularly in view of the nature of some materials it is necessary to deal with such as metal drums and other similar containers, and the Council are considering the extension of the existing refuse tip and it is anticipated that this land will be available for use during 1961.

SECTION D. HOUSING ACT.

During 1960 no major scheme of demolition of unfit houses was undertaken, but 3 houses were demolished and a further 4 closed.

The Council approved 6 applications for Improvement Grants, 12 applications for Standard Grants and 28 dwellings were made fit following informal action.

The construction of two 3 bedroomed houses, four 2 bedroomed houses and eight bedsitter bungalows were completed by the Council during the year.

SECTION E.

1. GENERAL.

44 cases of nuisances were dealt with during the year by informal action.

The cleansing of the classified and district highways of the town has been carried out by the Council. This duty is undertaken entirely by manual methods by street sweepers and orderly hand truck, such work is rendered more difficult in the centre of the town owing to the vehicular congestion.

conditions of the highways during the normal business hours.

2. FACTORIES ACT.

During the year there were 47 premises entered upon your register under the Factories Act of which building and constructional sites accounted for seven.

The Bucks. County Fire Brigade are now the Authority responsible for the issue of Certificates of Means of Escape in Case of Fire, and the duties remaining to the Council under the Factories Act are mainly in connection with the provision of suitable Sanitary Accommodation and the general cleanliness of the premises and other similar matters. Only one contravention was dealt with by informal action during the year.

3. ICE CREAM.

Twentyfive premises are registered for the sale of ice cream and four traders operate from mobile vans. Three of these mobile traders operate from depots outside the district.

There is only one manufacturer of ice cream in the town and his business is of small capacity dealing mainly with weekend trade from a mobile van. His premises have been found cleanly and his manufacturing records satisfactory.

4. FOOD HYGIENE.

The Council's Public Health Department continues to pay especial attention to this section of its duty and on a number of occasions it has been found necessary to call the attention of food traders to the provisions of the Regulations. In five cases structural alterations or additions were required and three of these were completed during the year. The other two must be undertaken early in 1961.

The Catering Establishments of the M.l. Service Area were completed and opened for business. Whilst plans of the proposals were submitted for examination and comments prior to the construction of the premises it would appear that the volume of business to be dealt with was greatly under estimated with the result that it was soon found that the provision of Sanitary Accommodation and the storage space for waste products was totally inadequate for the needs required. The Council have required that additional Sanitary Accommodation shall be provided and plans have been submitted and it is expected that construction will begin early in 1961.

Many thousands of customers visit the cafe and restaurant premises in the course of each week and the numbers are greatly increased during holiday and other periods when the density of motor traffic on the motorway is high.

5. SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are no slaughterhouses existing in the district and from decisions made by the Council under the Slaughterhouse Reports (Appointed Day) Order 1959 and the Slaughterhouse (Reports) Direction 1959 it is considered that the needs of the town are adequately catered for in the arrangements entered into by the retail meat traders and it is not the Council's intention to provide an Abbatoir in its district, and it is not considered that a privately owned establishment of this nature is required and neither is it deemed necessary that the establishment of any body such as a Joint Slaughterhouse Board is required in respect of this Urban District.

6. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The Council, together with the Bletchley Urban District Council and the Newport Pagnell Rural District Council constitute the North Bucks. Area Rodent Committee, and during 1960 a total of 1,209 properties were inspected and 57 of this number were found to have some infestation by rats and these properties received disinfestation treatment. 19 properties were treated when evidence of mice infestation was found.

The treatment of domestic property is dealt with as a free service to the public but non-domestic property is dealt with either on a day work basis or by yearly contract.

The test baiting of the sewerage system proved the sewers to be free of infestation by rats and whilst this is most satisfactory to note it may be that the flooded condition of the system during several short periods during the year was a contributory cause of its freedom from infestation.

7. UN SOUND FOODS.

During the year the food traders of the town have been most co-operative with my Department and they have indicated a sincere desire not to sell to the public any food of harmful quality. The following unsound foodstuffs have been surrendered by the traders and disposed of by your public health department:-

Canned Vegetables.	Canned Fruit.	Meat & Meat Products.
83 cans & 16 lbs.	84 cans.	179 lbs. 13 ozs.
Canned Milk.	Fish.	Soup.
12 cans	8 cans.	2 cans.

8. PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL.

The Public Swimming Pool owned by the Local Authority was opened in 1957 and is a rectangular bath 110 feet long by 33 feet wide and varying in depth between 3 feet and 9 feet.

The water supply is extracted from river gravel catchment area previously used for the purposes of the town's public water supply.

The water is in constant circulation with a designed rate of turn over of $6\frac{1}{4}$ hours. The water treatment comprises chlorination, pressure filtration with the addition of Allumino Ferric and Soda.

Four samples of water were submitted for Bacteriological examination during the season during which the pool was opened for public use (Mid April to Mid September) and also were found to be of very satisfactory quality.

The water treatment plant was formally used for the treatment of water for public supply purposes.

On 29th. June owing to a failure of the chlorine injection equipment the pool was closed for one day whilst the repair was effected and the water brought up to the necessary standard. The Council have been advised to install more modern chlorine injection equipment thereby enabling a satisfactory standard of chlorine in the 'free available' state to be maintained.

The weather conditions during the year were not generally inductive to bathing and the number of persons entering the pool was 33,286.

1. GENERAL

We had an outbreak of a mild form of measles during May and June. Otherwise we were clear of epidemics during the year.

2. NOTIFICATIONS

	1959	1960
Measles	4	65
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	5
Dysentery	NIL	5
Scarlet Fever	9	1

3. TUBERCULOSIS

One case was notified during the year. There were no deaths.

4. CANCER

This disease accounted for 8 deaths during the year compared with 10 in 1959.

D.H. WALDRON.

Medical Officer of Health.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act 1937 - 1959

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspect ions. (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities /	14	21	1	NIL
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	26	37	-	NIL
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ≠ (excluding out- workers' premises)	7	61	-	NIL
Total.....	47	119	1	NIL

2 - Cases in which defects were found
 (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more 'cases')

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	by H.M. Inspector. (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Con.'s (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	-	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT
 OUTWORK
 (Sections 110 & 111)

THERE WERE NO OUTWORKERS REGISTERED IN THIS DISTRICT.